



# First Presbyterian Church of Athens

In response to God's grace, the mission of First Presbyterian Church is to create a community where people seek the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, rejoice in worship, and go forth sharing the love of Christ with Athens and the world!

June 24, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## GATHERING IN THE NAME OF GOD

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us. As we enter a holy space this morning, **please silence your cell phone**. The nursery is available downstairs during both services. Consult an usher if you need a personal hearing device, large-print bulletin, or large-print hymnal.

The congregation is invited to speak or sing the liturgy in **bold** type.

### Greeting

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

### Prelude

Pastorella

Johann Sebastian Bach

### Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church

#### Moment for Mission

Foster Care Teams

Mary Elizabeth McConnell

Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad, making note of new and old friends.

### Song of Gathering

Hymn 229, Stanza 1

**From all that dwell below the skies  
let the Creator's praise arise: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung  
through every land, in every tongue.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### Call to Worship

We gather to worship God, Creator of heaven and earth,

**Who sustains the universe and all within it through his steadfast love.**

We come together at the invitation of Jesus Christ,

**Who leads us into the way of service and friendship in his name.**

We welcome the Holy Spirit,

**Who brings God's truth and power into our very soul.**

We celebrate as a joy-filled community of faith,

**Goodness and love unending to follow us all the days of our lives.**

Hymn 423 is a classic example of how Isaac Watts Christianized the Psalms, in this case Psalm 72:5-19, by turning their messianic language to New Testament equivalents. The tune was at first nameless and anonymous but is now called by the address of the supposed composer.

### \*Hymn 423

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

DUKE STREET

\* Those who are able may stand.



Over the summer, the children will be learning about different parts of worship. The children are invited forward where they find the church mouse.

Worshippers may greet each other by saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and responding, "And also with you."

**MONTREAT  
WORSHIP  
& MUSIC  
PARTICIPANTS**

**YOUTH**  
Chiara Bono  
Logan Bono  
Maggie DeMaria  
Emily Gaskill  
James Williams

**ADULTS**  
Charlotte Chromiak  
John Coble  
DeeAnn Cox  
John Kipp  
Sara Kipp  
Jeanne Nadenicek

**CHAPERONES**  
Kendall Kookogey  
Katie Williams

**Time for Children**

Natalie Bishop

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**God of mercy, we pray forgiveness for when we take credit for your miracles in our lives by saying that it is by our hard work; for when we promise to trust you but turn to our own way because you don't act soon enough or in the way we expect; for when we have opportunities to forgive, but we refuse. Help us to live as your redeemed and forgiven people to the glory of your name.**

**\*Silent Prayer**

Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response**

Hymn 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you.

**Commissioning of Montreat Worship & Music Participants**

**HEARING THE WORD OF GOD**

**Congregational Prayer for Illumination**

Hymn 321, Stanza 1

**Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine;  
Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight.**

**First Lesson**

Philippians 1:21-30, page 1071

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Edward C. Bairstow

The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living waters flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,  
and gently on his shoulder laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.

**Second Lesson**

Psalm 23:5-6 page 491

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Psalm 23: Your Life and God's Certainty

Dr. Bruce Lancaster

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

**\*Hymn 172**      My Shepherd Will Supply My Need      RESIGNATION

**\*Affirmation of Faith**      from A Brief Statement of Faith  
**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.**

**In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image,  
male and female, of every race and people, to live as one  
community.**

**In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah  
chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth.**

**Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from  
the house of bondage.**

**Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,**

**God is faithful still.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy  
kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**      ST. COLUMBA      Charles Villiers Stanford

**\*Doxology**      Hymn 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

## SENDING IN THE NAME OF GOD

**\*Hymn 447**      Lead On, O King Eternal      LANCASHIRE

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**      Hymn 535

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way  
through this and every coming day,  
that in your Spirit strong and true  
our lives may be our gift to you.**

**Postlude**      Rondeau      Jean Joseph Mouret

The effectiveness of the beloved paraphrase of Psalm 23 in Hymn 172 owes much to the flowing shape note melody that serves as a "living stream" to carry the text, which in turn has been given a remarkable clarity and lightness through the poet's skilled use of single-syllable words.

In 1983, the PC(USA) was formed by the reunion of what were the Northern and Southern streams of the Presbyterian denominations in the USA. The Brief Statement of Faith was written to articulate the common identity Presbyterians share. This creed is arranged in a trinitarian framework that is meant to be used in worship. This excerpt is from the section on God.

Following worship, all are invited for a time of fellowship and refreshments in the Atrium.

Texts and music for hymns and sung responses reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-714861

**A special word of welcome to our guests:** thank you for joining us for worship this morning. Please fill out the fellowship pad so that we may be in touch. We are delighted you are here and look forward to seeing you again.

**Nurseries for infants and toddlers**, available from 8:45 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., are located next to the Children's Ministry Suite and are accessible down the stairs in the Atrium and through the glass door.

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## NOTES ON THE SERVICE

### WORSHIP LEADERS

**Liturgist** Carol Strickland

**Lay Reader** John Walden

### USHERS

Chuck Toney (head), Allen Crowell,  
Phyllis Crowell, Kitty Donnan, Bertis Downs,  
Laura Toney

### FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

Sandy and Jim Boyles

### GREETERS

Jim Dove, Faye Marshall, Carol McKay,  
Terry Nestor

### SUNDAY MORNING MANAGER

Paulo Lourenço

### FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the the 51st wedding anniversary of John and Carey Walden, by Jennifer Abbott.

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## June Sermon Series: Psalm 23

Athanasius, a powerful figure in the early church, wrote: "Most scripture speaks to us, while the psalms speak for us." Nowhere is this more true than in Psalm 23, most everyone's favorite.

How does this psalm of just over 100 words...three thousand years old, drawn from a primitive historic context, set in a rural scene...speak with such power today? The secret is this: times change but our needs do not. More than ever we need God **to provide, to lead, to protect, to sustain**, and every day we need to affirm what David proclaimed, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

Our sermon series for June has moved us through the six verses of Psalm 23, exploring the depth of God's never-changing care for us, leading us to move from a stance of depending on ourselves to depending on God.

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## Summer Choir

All interested singers are invited to join us for Summer Choir. We meet in the choir room at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays to rehearse music for that morning's service. Our Chancel Choir is the foundation of this group. Singers may join us for any single Sunday or for as many as they wish, even for the whole summer. Adults, youth, and children are all welcome.

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## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

Dr. Bruce Lancaster, Interim Senior Pastor  
Dr. Carol Strickland, Associate Pastor  
Dr. John Kipp, Parish Associate  
The Reverend Bob Googe, Parish Associate  
Dr. John Coble, Director of Music and Organist  
Mrs. Kim Ness, Director of Youth Ministries  
Mrs. Natalie Bishop, Director of Children's Ministries  
Mrs. Elaine Johnson, Director of Weekday School  
Mr. Roger Burbage, Church Administrator  
Mrs. Lucy Bell Johnson, Administrative Assistant for  
Congregational Care & Membership  
Ms. Nan Powell, Communications Specialist

Mrs. Jennifer Sunderlin, Receptionist/Admin. Assistant  
Mrs. Laura McHugh, Accountant  
Mrs. Tiffany Greene, Weekday School Admin. Assistant  
Ms. Jennifer Abbott, Nursery Volunteer & Staff  
Coordinator  
Mrs. Charlotte Chromiak, Children's Music Assistant  
Mr. Willie "Buc" Collins, Sexton  
Mrs. Madeline Van Dyck, Parish Nurse  
  
Student Intern:  
Ms. Yuxin Ni, Church Music Intern

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, June 24

- 9:15 a.m. Summer Choir Rehearsal, Room 202
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching
- 11:05 a.m. Fellowship, Atrium
- 12:00 p.m. Depart for Montreat Worship & Music Conference
- 9:00 p.m. Massanetta Middle School Conference Participants Return

### Tuesday, June 26

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Staff Conference Room
- 1:30 p.m. Knitting Purls, Room 304
- 2:00 p.m. Bicentennial 2020 Vault Work, Room 127
- 6:00 p.m. First Friends, Ted's Most Best, 254 W Washington St.

### Wednesday, June 27

- 9:00 a.m. Weekday School Wonderful Wednesday
- 11:30 a.m. The Bookless Book Group, Heirloom Cafe, 815 N Chase St.
- 12:30 p.m. Prayers for Healing, Sanctuary
- 3:00 p.m. Bridge, Room 302
- 4:15 p.m. Chair Yoga, Room 310

### Saturday, June 30

- 12:00 p.m. Montreat Worship & Music Conference Participants Return

### Sunday, July 1 - Food Sunday

- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Dr. Bruce Lancaster preaching

## LOOKING AHEAD

**July 11 & 25** - Bookless Book Group

**July 22-28** - Montreat Youth Conference

**July 23-26** - Weekday School Camp

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### FOOD SUNDAY

#### July 1

On Sunday, July 1, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Athens-Area Emergency Food Bank. This month they are requesting snacks for children home from school for the summer:

- ♦ **Pretzels/chips**
- ♦ **Granola bars**
- ♦ **Snack crackers (ex: Lance Toastchee)**

Thank you for donating 221 items in June.

### MONTREAT WOMEN'S CONNECTION, August 10-12

"Through the Valley" is the theme from Psalm 23 for this women's conference with featured speaker Kate Bowler. Visit [montreat.org](http://montreat.org) for more information and registration. Carol Strickland and Cathi Lancaster are going and hope more FPC women will join them. Cathi is offering lodging at a family home for any who wish to stay there.

### FOSTER CARE TEAMS

Chosen for Life Ministries is a local organization dedicated to supporting foster families. One of the many ways they help is by building care teams who support a single foster family with a variety of services. These include delivering meals, babysitting, providing care packages, prayers, and simply being there when that family needs help. Learn more at [chosenforlifeministries.org](http://chosenforlifeministries.org) or contact Mary Elizabeth McConnell at [marye.mem314@gmail.com](mailto:marye.mem314@gmail.com).

### STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is the system through which members of FPC are trained and organized to help provide Christian caregiving to members of our congregation and community. If you or someone you know could use emotional and spiritual support during a difficult time, please contact Dawn Frisch (914-255-3447), Larry Gray (706-202-1005), or Carol Strickland (706-543-4338).

## Recommendations for Ruling Elders

The Nominations and Elections Committee encourages your participation in the process for nominating Ruling Elders. Ruling Elders should be persons of faith, dedication, and good judgment. Their manner of life should be a demonstration of the Christian Gospel, both within the church and in the world at large.

Please return this form to the Nominations and Elections Committee by placing it in one of the boxes in the Narthex, Atrium or church office, or by placing it in the collection plate. You may also mail it to the church office or email the church office at [frontdesk@firstpresathens.org](mailto:frontdesk@firstpresathens.org) by July 9.

### Current Ruling Elders: (Not eligible for recommendation)

#### CLASS OF 2018

Joe Attaway  
David Cole  
Jason Doornbos  
Sue Gray  
Mark Harrison  
Denise Horton  
Christine Register  
Arlene Shirley  
Harry Shuford  
Richard Stone

#### CLASS OF 2019

Robbie Bryan  
Greta Covington  
DeeAnn Cox  
Mary Havick  
Bob Glasscock  
Joe Hermanowicz  
Richard Lane  
Mary Peace  
Lawton Stephens  
Dan Trier

#### CLASS OF 2020

Jeff Bangle  
Meghan Bawcum  
Bob Burton  
Julie Hayes  
Sydney Jackson  
Avery McLean  
Jeanne Nadenicek  
Carl Nichols  
Tom Reigle  
Judy Scanlon

I prayerfully recommend the following for Ruling Elder:

Name	_____	Reasons	_____
Name	_____	Reasons	_____
Name	_____	Reasons	_____
Name	_____	Reasons	_____
Name	_____	Reasons	_____

Members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are DeeAnn Cox (chair), Phyllis Crowell, Richard Lane, Andy Osborne. and Leslie Trier.